

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. The Background of Study

Vocational High schools (VHS) are designed to set or prepare the students to face the real working fields after they graduate based on the skills of their expertise. VHS has also included English subject because nowadays it becomes very important since most of the job vacancies put English proficiency. Based on curriculum, the government recommends for students to master four skills in English such as listening, reading, speaking, writing, and those skills are related to each other. As one of the four major skills, reading is an important part of language teaching.

Light Vehicle Engineering (LVE) program is as one of the majors of VHS in Indonesia which prepares the student to face the global competition. The students are expected to know the terms in LVE, for instance kinds of engine and components use in car etc. Actually, there are many ways to make the students have good competence in English which is to support their career; one of them is by providing good teaching material.

Materials are important part of English teaching and learning that helping in teaching and learning process and make the students become more familiar with English which is relevant fields their study. Reading material is one of part in English teaching learning process. It is appropriate material which can expand information about the development progress of technology presented

in English besides, for the Light Vehicle Engineering program is many using term or vocabulary of English which is mentioning the name of engine and the other components of it. By having a good ability in reading skill, it can help the student to know and understanding the new term or vocabulary relate with their subject study which is their never known previously.

The act of giving relevant materials to the VHS students is also demanded by the curriculum implemented. There are 2 kinds of curriculum that are used in Indonesia, they are: Curriculum 2013 and School-based Curriculum (KTSP), but the object of this research is SMK Negeri 2 Medan which is actually used Curriculum 2013. In this curriculum emphasizes on the character education and consists of competences in the form of core competences (*Kompetensi Inti/ KI*) and basic competence (*Kompetensi Dasar/ KD*), the existence of attitude, knowledge and skill aspect in the core competence.

As an international language, English is needed for many specific purposes; that is why there is a term of ESP (English for Specific Purpose). In practice, there are variants of English use that depending on the specific purpose. This specification of English use will help learners to master English as well as what they need in term of specific purpose that they have.

In Indonesia, ESP is applied for fulfilling students' needs. Since there are so many vocational educations in Indonesia, ESP is essential to design teaching materials in meeting students' need. So, when the teaching English in VHS especially for LVE, teachers should take notice of designing teaching

materials based on students' needs related to the vocations that the students focus on. If the process of English teaching in a VHS does not apply ESP as an approach to meet students' need, there will be a condition that the English thought to the students will be useless because of the gap between the English materials and what the students need about English as an international school language related to a vocational purpose that they have.

Furthermore, the materials will develop in ESP should take into consideration what the learners' needs by using Content-Based Instruction (CBI) approach which is considered as the most effective approach to be used since it can associate the materials development with the learners' needs in learning a second language (Richards and Rodgers, 2001: 207), the advantages of CBI is to give an emphasis on both subject-matter knowledge and English equally.

In fact, problem found at SMK Negeri 2 Medan in Light Vehicle Engineering program by observed to get preliminary data. There are less appropriate materials in their textbooks which are representatives to their needs about LVE field. They used "Buku Bahasa Inggris" published by Pusat Kurikulum dan Perbukuan, Balitbang, Kemendikbud, in 2014. One of phenomena happens when the students were taught by using teaching materials of that textbook about genre, descriptive text.

Here are some phenomena of unrelated reading material descriptive text in the textbook:

1. Page 58 is “My Best Friend” it describes about person who names Dinda. “Dinda is good-looking” (line 6), “Dinda loves drawing, especially the manga characters” (line 17).
2. In page 70 is “Tanjung Puting National Park” that describes about internationally famous ecotourism destination in Indonesia. “Tanjung Puting National Park offers impressive experience to its visitors” (line 3), Camp Leaky is located in the heart of Tanjung Puting National Park (line 17)
3. And page 95 is “The Secret of Stonehenge” the text describes about historical place. One unexplained mystery that has both inspired and mystified modern man for centuries is Stonehenge (line 7), Archeologist Mike Parker Pearson and his colleagues have been studying an area about three kilometers (two miles) northeast of Stonehenge (line 17).

Based on the fact of problems above, the texts is not relevant with their major of LVE Program. So, the students should be taught about describe person, tourist destination and historical place that have a big influence in LVE field because the students in LVE program are expected to be good workers and engineers in the future.

By providing appropriate reading materials based on the students need, they will get easier and motivate the students to study because the materials are developed focus on discussing specific content that is about LVE Program.

Reading materials which are related to LVE students will be developed in order to fulfill students' need in relation to their major. Reading materials of descriptive text for Grade X students of SMK Negeri 2 Medan will be developed through Content-Based Instruction (CBI) and hopefully help the teaching and learning process of reading in order to improve and develop the students reading skill in the future based on their needs.

### **B. The Problem of Study**

Based on the background of the study above, the problem is “How should be the English reading material about describing people, tourism destination, and historical place be developed for students' need of Light Vehicle Engineering program based on Content-Based Instruction (CBI)?”

### **C. The Objective of Study**

The objective of study is to develop English reading material about describing people, tourism destination, and historical place for Light Vehicle Engineering program based on Content-Based instruction (CBI).

#### **D. The Scope of Study**

This study will only focus on developing English reading materials specifically for descriptive text genre based on Content-Based Instruction (CBI). The developing reading text materials in this study are about describing people, tourism destination, and historical place. Developing materials should be relevant and appropriate to students' need and the curriculum implementation for Grade X of Light Vehicle Engineering Program at SMK Negeri 2 Medan.

#### **E. The Significance of Study**

The researcher is expected to give meaningful contribution to some parties:

1. For teacher: it can be reference to teacher to develop the English material especially reading material of descriptive text for specific field.
2. For the students: hopefully this study can improve their motivation in learning English especially in reading material which is suitable for their needs.
3. For other researcher: this study can be reference to give the information and inspiration in conducting other researcher studies when they try to create the best new reports.